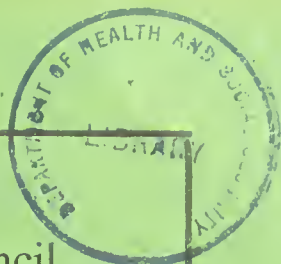


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Carmarthen Rural District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year 1969

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**ELFYN T. JONES**

B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

**GETHIN THOMAS**

M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Housing Officer



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Carmarthen Rural District Council

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## P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Members of the Carmarthen Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Again it is my privilege to present to you my annual report for the year 1969, and it is pleasing to state that the health of the population has remained at a satisfactory level. Full details and various statistics are shown in the main part of my report.

It is interesting to note that according to the Registrar General's figures the population of the Rural District is 150 less than last year. This year's figure is also the lowest figure since 1950 apart from 1962 and 1963.

The birth rate for the year was slightly lower than for the previous year but there was a slight increase in the number of illegitimate births.

The general death rate increased by 60 as compared to 1968, and the rate per 1,000 is slightly more than for England and Wales as a whole. There was also an increase of 21 cancer deaths (from 42 to 63), as compared to the previous year but there was no significant increase in any particular site of the disease. There were 6 new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, but no deaths were attributable to the disease.

There is still a need for adequate sewage disposal facilities in a number of villages and although the Council are well aware of this and indeed are most anxious to implement them, little encouragement appears to be coming from the higher authorities. Such amenities are not only a matter of urgency but are intolerable impositions in this modern age.

The Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer will be commenting upon the sanitary circumstances of the area in his report and I would like to pay tribute to all the staff of the department for the efficient day to day handling of Public Health matters.

Finally, I wish to thank all members of the Council for the co-operation and wholehearted manner in which they have supported me during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,  
*Medical Officer of Health*

No specific Committees deal with matters of public health; the whole Council is responsible.

The following are Members of the Council:—

Mr. J. M. Crimmins (Chairman)  
 Mr. Wm. F. Williams (Vice-Chairman) Deceased  
 Mr. E. R. Griffiths (Vice-Chairman)

Mr. J. O. Davies	Rev. W. A. Thomas
Mr. B. D. Lewis (Deceased)	Mr. Idwal J. Williams
Rev. D. D. Protheroe	Mr. William Thomas
Mr. W. D. Richards	Mr. H. A. Williams
Mr. H. H. Davies (Deceased)	Mr. William Evans
Mr. David Jones	Mr. William Davies
Mr. I. H. Williams	Mr. H. L. Williams
Mr. David Evans	Mr. D. J. Thomas
Mr. F. E. John	Rev. J. Marlais Thomas
Mr. Daniel Williams	Mr. H. D. Bowen
Mr. E. A. Milton	Mr. G. T. Rees
Mr. P. M. Lewis	Mr. V. L. James
Mr. H. H. Jones	Mr. E. J. Thomas
Mr. Emrys Morris	Mr. O. J. Williams
Mr. D. H. Pallant	Mr. G. D. Griffiths
Rev. W. J. Rees	Lt. Col. J. R. P. Thomas
Mr. William Lewis (Deceased)	Mr. G. A. Evans
Mr. J. R. Rees	Mr. K. B. E. Davies
Mr. J. C. Evans	Mr. H. G. James

Mr. S. O. Hughes

**Clerk and Chief Executive Officer:**

Mr. JOHNNIE THOMAS

**Medical Officer of Health:**

Dr. ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer:**

Mr. GETHIN THOMAS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.M.

**Engineer and Surveyor:**

Mr. G. G. THOMAS, M.Inst. B.E.

**Treasurer:**

Mr. W. P. LI. GREVILLE, A.I.M.T.A., A.R.V.A.,

**STAFF—PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT**

**Medical Officer of Health:**

ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Chief Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer:**

GETHIN THOMAS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.H.M.

**Public Health Inspector and Deputy Housing Officer:**

A. G. PITT, M.A.P.H.I.

**Public Health Inspectors and Assistant Housing Officers:**

R. S. MITCHELL, M.A.P.H.I.

E. CLOSS-PARRY, M.A.P.H.I.

**Student Public Health Inspector:**

P. M. R. DAVIES (commenced duties 29/9/69)

**Technical Assistant:**

RALPH JONES

**Chief Clerk:**

D. J. G. GRIFFITHS

**Clerks:**

C. B. JONES

Miss M. A. DAVIES

A. LEWIS (Terminated duties 16/2/69)

Miss E. O. JONES (Commenced duties 5/5/69)



## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Carmarthen Rural District covers an area of 202,733 acres and has 29 Parishes which for Public Health Administration purposes are divided into three divisions each being under the supervision of a Public Health Inspector.

The Divisions are as follows:—

Carmarthen Division	..	Parishes of Abergwili, Abernant, Cynwyl Elfed, Llanpumsaint, Llangain, Llangynog, Llanllawddog, Llanstephan, Newchurch, Meidrim, Trelech-a'r-Betws, and Part of St. Clears.
Llangendeirne Division	..	Parishes of Llanarthney, Llanddarog, Llangunnor, Llandyfaelog, Llangendeirne and St. Ishmael.
Whitland Division	..	Parishes of Laugharne Township, Llanboidy, Llanddowror, Llangynin, Llanwinio, Cilymaenllwyd, Henllanfallteg, Llandissilio-East, Eglwyscumin, Pendine, Whitland and Part of St. Clears.

For Registration purposes the area is divided into the following four Registration Sub-Districts:—

Abergwili, Llangain and St. Clears (Carmarthen Rural).  
 Llangendeirne.  
 Cynwyl.  
 Llanboidy.

The mid-year home population as estimated by the Registrar General for 1969 is 27,950.

The area is mainly agricultural, the inhabitants being engaged in farming and allied trades. Milk factories are situated at Whitland, St. Clears and Pensarn (Llangunnor).

Part of the parishes of Llanarthney, Llanddarog and Llangendeirne border on the anthracite coalfield, and naturally the main occupation of that area is coal mining.

There are a number of quarries throughout the rural area, some of which produce lime used extensively by the farming industry and others producing chippings and tarmacadam used throughout the area for road construction and maintenance in general building work.

No particular occupation (coal mining excepted) can be said to have any prejudicial effect upon the health of the people.

The Rateable value of the area is £600,622 the sum represented by a Penny Rate £2,362 and the number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book is 9,533,

**Comparison for the last five years.**

Year	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Population .. ..	28,050	28,050	27,990	28,100	27,950
Rateable Value ..	£528,450	£547,094	£567,902	£584,580	£600,222
Penny Rate ..	£2,057	£2,110	£2,202	£2,290	£2,362
Inhabited Houses ..	9,072	9,192	9,653	9,739	9,533

**Public Swimming Baths:**

There are no public swimming baths in the area of the rural district.

**VITAL STATISTICS****Live Births:**

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ..		206	163	369
Illegitimate ..		13	11	24
		—	—	—
Total .. ..		219	174	393
		—	—	—

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population—14.1

**Still-Births**

	Males	Females	Total
Number .. ..	3	4	7
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births .. ..	..	..	18.0
Rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	..	..	0.25
<b>Total Live and Still-births</b>	222	178	400
<b>Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) ..</b>	7	1	8

**Causes of Infant Deaths:—**

Congenital Anomalies—1  
 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc—3  
 Other causes of Perinatal Mortality—4

**Ages at which Infant Deaths occurred:—**

Under 1 week .. ..	7
Under 1 year .. ..	1



**Infant Mortality Rates:**

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	..	..	20.35
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..		21.68
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births			0.00

**Maternal Mortality:**

Number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

		Males	Females	Total
Deaths (All Ages)	..	208	197	405
Death rate per 1,000 estimated home population	..			14.5

# Vital Statistics and Comparison for the last Five Years:—

Year	Estimated Mid-Year Home Population	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Deaths		Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	
		No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	No.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1969	27,950	393	*14.1	405	*14.5	7	18.0	—	0.00	8	20.35
1968	28,100	417	14.8	345	12.3	7	16.50	—	0.00	9	21.58
1967	27,990	369	13.18	358	12.79	7	18.62	—	0.00	8	21.68
1966	28,050	406	14.47	313	11.16	7	16.95	—	0.00	6	14.75
1965	28,050	394	14.05	339	12.09	5	12.53	—	0.00	10	25.38
England and Wales—1969 . . . .		—	16.3 (a)	—	11.9 (a)	—	13.0 (a)	—	Not available	—	18.0 (a)

•Adjusted: Live birth-rate (comparability factor 1.10) = 15.51 per 1,000.  
 Death rate (comparability factor 1.11) = 16.09 per 1,000.

(a) Provisional rates.

## CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS 1969

		Males	Females	Total
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .. ..	..	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus .. ..	..	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. ..	..	1	8	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine .. ..	..	3	5	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .. ..	..	9	2	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. ..	..	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. ..	..	—	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate .. ..	..	3	—	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms .. ..	..	10	13	23
Diabetes Mellitus .. ..	..	—	4	4
Anaemias .. ..	..	—	3	3
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc .. ..	..	1	3	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. ..	..	5	7	12
Hypertensive Disease .. ..	..	7	8	15
Ischaemic Heart Disease .. ..	..	64	46	110
Other forms of Heart Disease .. ..	..	5	10	15
Cerebrovascular Disease .. ..	..	41	40	81
Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. ..	..	4	10	14
Influenza .. ..	..	1	—	1
Pneumonia .. ..	..	6	10	16
Bronchitis and Emphysema .. ..	..	14	3	17
Asthma .. ..	..	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. ..	..	7	—	7
Peptic Ulcer .. ..	..	—	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver .. ..	..	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System .. ..	..	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis .. ..	..	3	2	5
Hyperplasia of Prostate .. ..	..	1	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System .. ..	..	—	1	1
Congenital Anomalies .. ..	..	2	—	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc .. ..	..	3	—	3
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality .. ..	..	3	1	4
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions .. ..	..	—	2	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents .. ..	..	2	1	3
All Other Accidents .. ..	..	8	2	10
All other External Causes .. ..	..	—	1	1
		208	197	405

## Deaths in Age Groups

0—1 years—8	35—45 years— 8
1—5 years—2	45—55 years—25
5—15 years—2	55—65 years—63
15—25 years—2	65—75 years—115
25—35 years—4	75+ —176

**Cancer**

The number of deaths from cancer in recent years:—

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	8	11	6	9
Malignant ncoplasm— lung, bronchus .. .. .	13	9	12	8	11
Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	6	3	6	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	3	1	2	3	6
Malignant neoplasm, Prostate	—	—	—	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	—	—	—	—	8
Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	—	—	—	—	2
Other malignant neoplasms etc.	25	31	24	19	23
Totals .. .. .	54	55	52	42	63

**TUBERCULOSIS**

During the year the number of notifications received was 6 as compared with 1 for the year previously. The department also received two notifications in respect of persons who moved into the district during the period, but who had been previously notified. Although 8 cases were removed from the register during the year, the total number of cases remaining on the register was the same as for the previous year.

**TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER—NOTIFICATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS**

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number of cases on Register 1/1/69 .. .. .	72	27	9	13	81	40
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	—	3	—	3	—	6
Number of transfers from other areas during the year ..	—	—	1	1	1	1
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	7	—	—	1	7	1
Number of cases remaining on the Register as at 31/12/69	65	30	10	16	75	46

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography service made only 1 visit to the district during the year viz. to Ferryside where 95 persons of the general population were examined.

### TUBERCULOSIS – INCIDENCE AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TWENTY YEARS 1950–1969

Year	INCIDENCE			DEATHS		
	Case Rate per 1,000 Population			Death Rate per 1,000 Population		
	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Total	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Total
1950	.96	.14	1.10	.39	.07	.46
1951	1.24	.18	1.42	.42	.07	.49
1952	.91	.32	1.23	.17	.03	.20
1953	1.34	.14	1.48	.10	.03	.13
1954	1.01	.21	1.22	.18	—	.18
1955	1.16	.21	1.37	.32	.03	.35
1956	.67	.18	.85	.14	—	.14
1957	.88	.03	.91	.11	—	.11
1958	.81	.14	.95	.11	—	.11
1959	.39	—	.39	.14	—	.14
1960	.53	.11	.64	.10	—	.10
1961	.54	.18	.72	.11	—	.11
1962	.61	.04	.65	.07	.03	.10
1963	.11	.07	.18	.04	—	.04
1964	.28	.07	.35	—	.03	.03
1965	.18	.03	.21	.03	—	.03
1966	.36	.03	.39	—	—	—
1967	.25	.07	.32	—	—	—
1968	.04	—	.04	—	—	—
1969	.11	.11	.22	—	—	—
Average for the twenty years	.62	.11	.73	.12	.01	.13
Average for the first 5 year period 1950-1954	1.09	.20	1.29	.25	.04	.29
Average for the last 5 year period 1965-1969	.19	.04	.23	.00	.00	.00

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA**

### **Laboratory Facilities:**

As in former years the Public Health Laboratory, situated at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen, and which is under the direction of Dr. H. D. S. Morgan, again proved of inestimable value to the health services of the area.

### **Ambulance Facilities:**

Ambulance facilities, including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases, are under the control of the County Council.

### **Home Nursing Service:**

Twelve district nurses in direct employ of County Council in the following districts:—

Drefach, Ferryside, Gorslas, Laugharne, Llanstephan, Meidrim/Trelech, Pontyates, Cynwyl Elfed, Llanboidy, Llanarthney, St. Clears and Whitland.

In addition the five district nurses employed in the Carmarthen Combined district undertake duties in the Rural area.

### **Child Health Clinics:**

Ten Child Health Clinics in the area viz:—Carmarthen, Ferryside, Cross Hands, Laugharne, Llanstephan, Meidrim, Pendine, Pontyates, St. Clears and Whitland.

### **Ante-Natal Clinics:**

Three Ante-Natal clinics—Cross Hands, Kidwelly and Pontyates.

### **The Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children:**

Arrangements are made for unmarried mothers to be admitted to one of the following hostels:—Northlands, Cardiff; Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea; The Llandaff Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee Hostel, Penarth or the St. Martin's Home, Hereford.

This is the responsibility of the County Council, and also the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee.

### **Hospital Accommodation:**

### **Infectious Diseases:**

The Infectious Diseases Hospital is situated at Upper Tumble, near Llanelli, and is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.



### **General Hospital Facilities:**

Hospital facilities are available at Priory Street and at Glangwili, Carmarthen, and both are known as the West Wales General Hospital. The Hospital provides treatment for general medical and surgical diseases for the whole of the West Wales area. The West Wales Hospital Management Committee also provide beds for geriatric patients.

### **Venereal Diseases:**

The Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the treatment of Venereal Diseases. Clinics, where free treatment may be obtained under conditions of secrecy and confidence are held at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen.

These clinics are held as follows:—

Males and Females—First and Third Friday in each month—  
2 p.m to 6 p.m.

### **National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951:**

#### **Section 47 of the 1948 Act**

An application is still being made every three months to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an extension of an Order in respect of two aged persons who were removed to an Institution in the early part of 1959 and 1968.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious diseases cases notified during the year were as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Scarlet Fever .. ..	3	1	4
Measles .. ..	39	33	72
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	—	1	1
Infective Hepatitis .. ..	9	8	17
Sonne Dysentery .. ..	1	2	3
Salmonella (Type unknown) ..	1	—	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	—	3	3
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis ..	—	3	3

Distribution of the above Infectious Disease cases into Parishes:—

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Meningococcal Meningitis	Infective Hepatitis	Sonne Desentery	Salmonella	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Non Respiratory Tuberculosis
Abergwili ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Abernant ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Conwil Elfed ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laugharne ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Llanarthney ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Llanddarog ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Llandyfaelog ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Llangain ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Llangendeirne ..	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	1
Llangunnor ..	3	3	1	—	3	—	—	—
Llanstephan ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newchurch ..	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Clears ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
St. Ishmael ..	—	46	—	1	—	—	—	—
Trelech ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—

### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics relating to Vaccination and Immunisation during the year for the County as a whole, given by the County Medical Officer of Health, are as follows:—

#### (i) Smallpox:

Age at date of Vaccination						Number Vaccinated	Number Revaccinated
Under 1 year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	110	—
1 year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	995	—
2—4 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	204	7
5—15 years ..	..	..	..	..	..	43	96

## Vaccination of persons under 16

	PRIMARY						Boosters
	Born 1969	Born 1968	Born 1967	Born 1966	Born '62-65	Others —16	
Triple Antigen ..	910	673	155	48	90	21	824
Diphtheria Tetanus ..	1	3	6	3	43	15	434
Tetanus .. ..	—	2	2	9	48	267	135
Polio (Sabin) .. ..	828	631	204	73	156	45	454
Measles .. ..	4	64	45	48	13	15	—

## SCHOOLS

The Local Education Authority is the County Council. There are 46 Primary Schools (47 Departments) and 4 Secondary Schools within the Rural Area.

No schools within the area of the Rural District were closed on account of infectious diseases during 1969.

## Water Supply:

Mr. G. G. Thomas the Council's Engineer and Surveyor reports as follows on the position at the end of 1969.

The general supply position in the area during the year once again presented many problems which were accentuated by the very long and dry summer. In fact the weather did not break until the first week in November.

It was necessary to restrict night supplies in the St. Clears, Laugharne and Pendine areas for nearly three months during the Summer and Autumn and it also became necessary to impose the same restrictions in the Gorslas, Cefneithin and Drefach areas for a shorter period. The supply for Ferryside was also affected and for the first time restrictions were imposed on that source also for some four weeks. During the summer local sources at Meidrim, Newchurch and Whitland were brought into use to offset some of the shortages and additional springs were pumped into the Llawddog source to enable that area to maintain its supplies.

With regard to the new schemes under construction, the Towy Scheme was still not completed at the year's end. The main cause of this further delay has been slow delivery of certain items of equipment. All efforts are now being made to ensure that this scheme will come into operation in the spring of 1970 to augment the Eastern Area supplies and avoid a recurrence of the difficulties experienced in the summer of this year. On a happier note the work on the Morfa Bychan Scheme has proceeded most satisfactorily during the nine months since its commencement in April of this year. Already the main laying contract from the borehole via Upper Pendine to the new reservoir at Brandy Hill near Whitland has been completed. Work has also started on the reservoir and the Treatment Works

Site. The contract for the Treatment Building should be let early in the New Year and it is hoped that by the end of 1970 the whole of stage one of this big scheme will be virtually completed. By the use of temporary diesel pumps some water is already being used from this source to augment the supplies in the St. Clears and Laugharne areas.

Several requests for further mains extensions in various parts of the area were received during the year and where such extensions are feasible details have been forwarded to the Welsh Office for further approval. However, all these extensions will have to be delayed until the extra water from the Towy and Morfa Bychan Schemes becomes available.

A total of 83 samples were taken from various sources for analysis these being 15 chemical and 68 bacteriological. Additionally the Public Health Department took numerous samples from the same supplies during the year.

The rainfall records for the year were as follows:—

Carmarthen — 48.62"

Gorslas — 56.20"

Whitland — 48.11"

Dwelling Houses and number of population supplied from Public Water Mains are as follows:—

Parish		Houses supplied from Standpipes	Houses connected to mains	Total	Population
Abergwili ..	Llawddog Scheme	Nil	865	865	2595
Cynwyl Elfed					
Newchurch					
Llanpumsaint					
Llanllawddog					
Abernant .. ..		9	21	30	96
Pendine .. ..		Nil	84	84	269
Henllanfallteg .. ..		1	50	51	183
Whitland .. ..		Nil	488	488	1561
Trelech-ar-Betws .. ..		Nil	47	47	150
St. Ishmael .. ..		Nil	423	423	1353
Cilymaenllwyd .. ..		Nil	54	54	173
Llandissilio-East .. ..		Nil	65	65	210
Llanboidy	Gynnin Scheme	Nil	222	222	710
Llanwinio					
Laugharne ..					
St. Clears ..					
Eglwyscumin	Western Area Scheme	Nil	1920	1920	6144
Llanddowror					
Meidrim ..					
Llangain ..					
Llangynog ..	Eastern Area Scheme	20	2828	2848	9113
Llanstephan					
Llangynin ..					
Llangendeirne					
Llanarthney					
Llanddarog					
Llangunnor					
Llandyfaelog					
Total ..		30	7067	7097	22,557



## Sewerage:

Mr. G. G. Thomas, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor reports as follows on the position at the end of 1969.

Due to the very severe restrictions on capital expenditure imposed by the Government little progress can be reported on new projects during the year.

The work on the Llangunnor Scheme was not completed by the end of the year as had been hoped and it is now likely that this scheme will not be in operation before mid 1970. Similarly the Clynderwen Scheme has been delayed and is expected to be operational in May 1970.

Consent was received late in 1969 to relay the main sewers now in the Corran Brook Laugharne, and this work should be under way in the spring of 1970. It would be gratifying if the Ministry were to allow the further stage of the Laugharne Scheme namely partial treatment and some new sewers, to be carried out in the near future but so far no such indication has been received. Consent was also received to proceed with the Upper Pendine Scheme and this work will be carried out during 1970. The negotiations with the Ministry of Defence regarding the taking over of the present treatment works have still not been finalised but now that Upper Pendine is to be connected to the works, agreement will have to be reached at an early date.

Survey work on the scheme to serve Llanddowror Village was proceeded with and it is hoped to connect this to the existing St. Clears Treatment Works thereby eliminating the need for land in the Llanddowror area. Approval is still awaited the proposals for Four Roads and it is hoped some progress will be seen in 1970 towards the implementation of the Llanddarog/Porthyrhyd Scheme.

## RODENT CONTROL

During the first half of the year it was apparent that a small number of rodents in the Pensarn district appeared to be resistant to Warfarin poison. The Regional Pest Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Foods was immediately notified and from July 1, the Ministry were also engaged in rodent control in this area. A detailed survey in conjunction with the Ministry was undertaken which covered the Pensarn district and also part of the parishes of Llandyfaelog and Abergwili.

Warfarin resistance was finally confirmed amongst some rats on farms and it was also ascertained that some of these could not be killed by coumatetralyl which is another anticoagulant poison. The acute poisoning technique was undertaken and the stage was reached towards the end of the year, where all such premises were cleared of rats. However, it remains to be seen whether there are some resistant rats in the area, whose presence is yet unknown. The

householders in the area concerned have been advised not to use warfarin poison during 1970 and to notify the department immediately of any rodent infestation, so that treatment can be carried out with acute poisons.

The Ministry appreciated the very early notification of the suspected resistance, which enabled immediate alternative treatment to be undertaken, thus preventing the problem from becoming acute.

The Annual ten per cent baiting and the first maintenance treatment of the sewer systems throughout the rural area were carried out during May and June, and 230 manholes were test baited. The second maintenance treatment was undertaken in November.

Regular visits were made to the Council's Sewage Disposal Works and Refuse Disposal Sites and treatments were carried out when necessary.

The Rodent Operators again assisted residents of the area generally in dealing with complaints concerning ants, flies, bees, wasps, bats and other insect pests in their dwellings.

The following table summarises the number of properties inspected during the year and the number found to be infested :—

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1 (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. .. .	210	90
(b) No. Infested by (i) Rats .. ..	192	85
(ii) Mice .. ..	17	5
2 (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .. .. .	550	100
(b) No. infested by (i) Rats .. ..	340	25
(ii) Mice .. ..	60	5



## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1969

Public Health and Housing Department,  
3 Spilman Street,  
Carmarthen.

*September 1970*

To the Chairman and Members of the Carmarthen Rural District  
Council

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

It is again my privilege to submit my Annual Report on the environmental health duties and housing functions of the Department for the year ended December 31, 1969.

Detail accounts of the environmental health services are given in the body of the Report, together with statistics and this gives a clear indication of how varied and comprehensive are the housing and public health functions of the combined department. A number of housing functions are closely allied to public health duties and in a large, scattered district such as ours, it seems sensible and economical to combine a number of these functions to the same technical staff. In the past two or three years there have been published a few reports on the reform and re-organisation of local government, viz. Seebohm, the two Maud Reports and also the two Green Papers on the reform of the tripartite system of the National Health Service, Executive Councils and the personal health services of local authorities. One of the themes running through these reports, is the creation of fewer departmental organisations, with the object of achieving economy of scarce technical man-power and also achieving better co-ordination of routine work and policy decisions, for the ultimate benefit of both local government and of most importance – the *client*. Some Authorities have acted in advance of legislation and have adopted some recommendations in Government Reports. An example is the London Borough of Lambeth which has set up a Housing Advisory Centre within the Director of Housing's department where families or individuals can seek advice on *all* aspects of housing and not only on problems in connection with the council house sector. This project is in its infancy and an opportunity will be taken to study and learn from Lambeth's experience so that possibly this Council and others can benefit in the future from their pioneering efforts.

During the latter half of the year, the staff were heavily engaged in dealing with the public health nuisance that erupted at the intensive egg-laying units of W. & J. B. Eastwoods, at Gelligaeros, Cwmffrwd. The residents were very irate with the prevailing nuisance from smell and flies and they had every cause to be. Further details are given

later in the Report. Legal advice and statutory action was taken by the Council and the result is that the Company are now much more keenly aware of the imperative need to pay scrupulous attention to the hygienic housing and public health control in relation to these intensive egg-laying sheds. The Council and the department's staff can only enforce the statutes and one must rely to a large extent on effective co-operation by both industrialists and agriculturalists alike. There is no doubt that on a national scale, there is a terrible weakness in planning legislation, whereby any farmer can erect buildings of approximately 5000 square feet, and even 10,000 square feet and more if of two storeys, for the purpose of intensive poultry and other animal housing WITHOUT planning permission. Also, any number of these buildings can be erected at any one time, on any holding, provided that they are one hundred yards apart. This is without regard to availability of land for manure and slurry disposal and also completely disregarding proximity to dwelling-houses. It is a ridiculous situation which the government should amend without delay, so that planning permissions for intensive poultry units in future can be more realistically assessed in relation to housing development.

In October, the Housing Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee published a new housing 'bible' for housing authorities, entitled 'Council Housing – Purposes, Priorities and Procedures.' The Committee's Chairman was Professor Cullingworth and the report commonly bears his name. It is a voluminous document and contains valuable advice, if not all new, for the guidance of housing authorities. It emphasises the necessity for local authorities to estimate the housing need, as distinct from the demand, of all sections of the community, including the single, physically handicapped and the aged. Particular attention is referred to the social needs in housing and in essence, that families who are less able to cope with every day living problems, should have priority in housing allocations. The Report recommends closer liaison between housing and social service departments. The philosophy behind the recommendations are sound but until the social service departments are adequately staffed to ensure full supportive care of families with acute social problems, following re-housing, then insuperable difficulties will be experienced by housing authorities. Regrettably, theory and practice are not always compatible, particularly in the housing field.

Housing is still one of the major factors in the Council's deliberations and efforts are now being concentrated on the provision of suitable 'sheltered' housing accommodation for the elderly, with its ancillary services. A three year housing programme of 210 bungalows and 28 three bedroom houses has been approved. All the bungalows are to be two bedrooms, so that flexibility can be provided, if need be, thus securing the dual purpose of housing either the aged or other small families. This is of importance in scattered rural communities where one has not a large, comparatively stable waiting

list, similar to the larger conurbations. Continued emphasis is being placed on the full supportive services and amenities for 'elderly' housing such as appointments of wardens, supervisors and the provision of suitable alarm systems. A new innovation has been introduced by the appointment of a peripatetic warden to cover four housing estates and the eventual aim is that the whole of the specially adapted bungalows for the elderly, in the rural district, will be provided with the appropriate warden service. The Council are to be commended on their enlightened and humane approach to the housing problems of our 'senior citizens.' The various other housing management functions, which are of no less importance, are highlighted under their respective headings.

Due to pressure and concentration of work on the public health problem at Cwmffrwd, and other staffing difficulties, certain routine public health and housing work suffered to some extent, as a consequence.

I again wish to pay tribute to the Public Health Inspectors and to the technical and clerical staff of the department, upon whom falls the daily routine and other emergency work, and for working outside the normally accepted scheduled hours, when the necessity arose. A further responsibility was self-imposed on the department during the year, by the appointment of a student public health inspector. He will undergo a four year training course with the Council, combined with a block-release theoretical training period at Llandaff Technical College, Cardiff. The Council will therefore help to contribute to alleviating the shortage of qualified public health inspectors in the country.

I would like to pay tribute to the helpful advice and encouragement of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Elfyn T. Jones, and refer to the harmonious relationship that has prevailed for a number of years. Finally, I wish to thank the Council's Chairman, Housing and Public Health Chairman and all members of the Council for their unfailing support, co-operation and courtesy at all times, and for the privilege of expressing one's opinion and recommendations, even if not always in accord with the council members.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

GETHIN THOMAS,  
*Chief Public Health Inspector  
 and Housing Officer*



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## HOUSING

### COUNCIL HOUSE DEVELOPMENT

During the year 35 two bedroom bungalows were built in the district viz:—

- 16 at Bryn Siloh, Carway
- 9 at Parcgywn, Trevaughan
- 10 at Maesyberllan, Llangendeirne

In addition 6 three bedroom houses were also completed at Trevaughan making a total of 41 dwellings. The total number of dwellings in the Council's ownership amounted to 1597 (this figure includes private houses the Council have acquired over the years) at the end of the year.

A summary of the total number of various Council owned dwellings are as follows:—

4 bedroom houses	—	25
3 bedroom houses	—	1135
3 bedroom bungalows	—	2
2 bedroom houses	—	83
2 bedroom flats	—	45
2 bedroom bungalows	—	251
1 bedroom houses	—	2
1 bedroom bungalows	—	34
Private houses acquired	—	20

A detailed report was submitted to the Council in October enumerating the housing requirements of the district and in March 1970 a three year programme was adopted. This caters for the erection of 238 dwellings, comprised of 203 two-bedroom bungalows, 7 two-bedroom flats and 28 three-bedroom houses.

The housing programme is therefore concentrated mainly on the erection of specially adapted two bedroom bungalows for the elderly but it also serves the dual purpose of housing families of three and under when required. National and local statistics show a fast percentage increase in the number of elderly in our communities and of course the rural areas will house a larger percentage, due to the disproportion of young and old in country districts.

## POST WAR HOUSING PROGRAMME

Parish	Site	Area of Site (Acres)	No. of Dwellings completed	No. of Dwellings under construction	No. of Dwellings in Tender	No. of Dwellings which site will accommodate
Abergwili	Ismyrddin, Abergwili	1.065	8	—	—	7
	Extension Ismyrddin	.552	—	—	—	—
	Gyfre Gardens, Abergwili	1.752	19	—	—	2
	Extension Gyfre Gardens	.129	—	—	—	—
	Crychiau, Abergwili	1.175	14	—	—	26
	Glangwili	2.221	—	—	—	2
	Tymawr, Abergwili	0.114	—	—	—	6
	Whitemill	1.010	—	—	—	—
	Talag	0.35	4	—	—	—
	Abernant	0.75	4	—	—	—
Cynwyl Elfed Llanpumsaint	Cynwyl	2.081	8	—	—	—
	Llanpumsaint..	0.80	8	—	—	—
	Rhydar gaeau	0.257	4	—	—	—
	Llanarthney	1.02	10	—	—	—
	Llanarthney (2)	1.14	—	—	7	7
	Brynluan, Gorslas	7.667	87	—	—	—
	Heol Tabernacle, Cefneithin	3.168	18	—	—	—
	Is-y-llyn, Cefneithin	3.950	24	—	—	—
	Y Fron, Cefneithin	1.369	14	—	—	—
	Cwm-y-glo, Cefneithin	3.551	—	—	—	30
Llangunnor	Heol Afallon, Drefach	3.982	24	—	—	—
	Bron-yr-ynn, Drefach	5.070	50	—	—	—
	Yr Hafan, Drefach	0.594	4	—	—	—
	The Square, Gorslas	2.206	—	17	—	17
	Brynglas, Drefach	5.554	—	—	—	77
	Site near Falcon House, Drefach	0.273	—	—	—	—
	Brynmeurig, Pensarn	38.024	297	—	—	—
	Tre-Gynwr	—	—	—	—	—
	Nantycaws	1.180	—	—	—	—
	Pensarn (2)	1.556	—	—	—	—



Parish	Site	Area of Site (Acres)	No. of Dwellings completed	No. of Dwellings under construction	No. of Dwellings in Tender	No. of Dwellings which site will accommodate
Llanddarog	Mynyddcerrig ..	2.32	12	—	—	—
	Derwendeg, Porthyrhyd ..	2.11	16	—	—	—
	Cwmcatty, Porthyrhyd ..	0.895	—	8	—	8
	Is-y-llan, Llanddarog ..	6.853	40	—	—	—
	Llandyfaelog ..	0.90	6	—	—	—
Llandyfaelog	Bancycapel ..	0.42	4	—	—	—
	Cwmffrwd ..	1.15	14	—	—	—
	Maesderi, Cwmffrwd ..	1.30	—	—	—	12
	Maesglas, Pontyates ..	21.695	120	—	—	—
	Pontyates (2) ..	7.935	—	—	—	72
Llangendeirne	Brongwendraeth, Carway ..	5.88	44	—	—	—
	Maes-y-wern, Carway ..	8.967	78	—	—	—
	Four Roads ..	1.10	8	—	—	—
	Crwbin ..	1.32	8	—	—	—
	Maesyberllan Llangendeirne 1 ..	0.955	8	—	—	—
	Maesyberllan Llangendeirne 2 ..	1.098	10	—	—	—
	Bancffosfelen ..	1.367	14	—	—	—
	Meinciau (1) ..	0.694	6	—	—	—
	Meinciau (2) ..	0.474	—	—	—	6
	Siloh, Carway ..	3.441	16	—	—	30
St. Ishmael	Glan Tywi, Ferryside ..	4.566	30	—	—	6
	Glan Tywi, (2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
	Brynedda, Llansaint ..	0.95	8	—	—	—
	Parc-y-saint, Llansaint ..	0.99	8	—	—	—
	Portway, Ferryside ..	0.25	3	—	—	—
Llangain	Gollen Row, Llansaint ..	0.254	—	—	—	3
	Smyrna ..	0.49	6	—	—	—
	Vicarage, Llangain ..	0.943	—	—	—	9
	Isfryn, Llangynog ..	0.70	6	—	—	—
	Glanymor, Llanstephan ..	2.557	20	—	—	—
Llangynog Llanstephan	Plas Gwyn, Llanstephan ..	2.641	—	—	—	22
	The Square, Llanstephan ..	0.933	—	—	—	9
	Llanybri ..	2.32	12	—	—	—

Parish	Site	Area of Site (Acres)	No. of Dwellings completed	No. of Dwellings under construction	No. of Dwellings in Tender	No. of Dwellings which site will accommodate
Newchurch	Lon Esgair ..	0.44	4	—	—	—
	Cwmwyfran ..	2.30	23	—	—	—
	Trevaughan ..	3.50	15	—	—	40
	Brynawel ..	0.65	4	—	—	—
	Orchard Park, Laughtarne	10.02	75 + Shop	—	—	—
Llanwinio Laughtarne	Gosport Street ..	0.62	4	—	—	18
	Redevelopment Scheme	1.212	—	—	—	—
	Llangynin ..	0.952	4	—	—	—
	Meidrim ..	3.34	22	—	—	—
	Lon Hafren, St. Clears	8.837	71	—	—	—
St. Clears	Lon-y-prior, St. Clears	1.871	18	—	—	—
	Bridge Street, St. Clears	0.39	4	—	—	—
	Pwlltrap ..	0.779	2	—	7	10
	National School Site ..	0.761	—	—	—	7
	Herbert Terrace, St. Clears	2.662	—	—	—	38
Trelech-ar-Betws	Bancyfelin ..	3.51	26	—	—	—
	Trelech ..	1.07	12	—	—	—
	Penybont ..	0.50	4	—	—	—
	Efailwen ..	0.66	2	—	—	—
	Llanglydwen ..	0.55	4	—	—	—
Cilymaenllwyd	Heol-y-gaer ..	2.68	26	—	—	—
	Red Roses ..	1.212	—	—	—	14
	Pendine ..	0.88	4	—	—	—
	Llanmiloe ..	3.90	20	—	—	—
	Llanddowror ..	0.548	—	—	—	6
Llandissilio-East Eglwyscumin Pendine Llanddowror	Lon Hywel ..	4.40	36	—	—	—
	Bryngwenllian	7.937	54	—	—	—
	Spring Gardens	5.506	—	—	—	50
	..	..	..	..	..	..
	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	1528 + shop	25	14	494

## HOUSING TENANCIES

The number of relets last year was 88 compared to 100 in the previous year, which represents a percentage rate of 5.6%

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
No. of Dwellings	1041	1065	1079	1095	1197	1232	1281	1491	1527	1568
No. of Re-lets	39	55	78	60	40	70	54	55	100	88
% Rate	3.7%	5.1%	7.2%	5.4%	3.3%	5.6%	4.2%	3.7%	6.5%	5.6%

It will be seen from the above table, that the rate has fluctuated between 3.3% and 7.2% over the last 10 year period, with an average of approximately 5%. This has been a significant contribution to the annual housing allocation, particularly during the period when house building was curtailed due to financial restrictions. It now amounts to more than the average annual building programme in the post-war period. The Tre-Gynwr Estate still contributes greatly to the higher percentage rate, the figure being 12.13%. As stated in the previous report, one of the reasons for the greater turnover of relets is the higher rents and that some families in the lower income group find that the rent is more than they can reasonably bear. There appears to be a case for a review of the Council's Rent Rebate Scheme, so that families in this category need not be deprived of housing accommodation suitable to their needs.

During the year a total of 129 dwellings were allocated as follows:—

4 Bedroom Houses	—	1
3 Bedroom Houses	—	74
2 Bedroom Houses	—	6
2 Bedroom Bungalows	—	44
2 Bedroom Flats	—	4

The number of transfers dealt with are exactly the same as last year, namely 52 and the categories of the transfers are as follows:—

Transfer between Authorities	—	2
Transfer to other sites	—	16
Transfer on same sites	—	12
Transfer following death of statutory tenant	—	17
Transfer for domestic reasons	—	5

Under the heading Council House Development, reference was made to the concentration on building two bedroom bungalows in the three year programme. The proportion being almost nine bungalows to one house. The demand is for a smaller proportion of bungalows to houses, but the council's policy of encouraging transfers, will enable a number of tenants to move from under-occupied three bedroom houses to bungalows, thereby releasing the

larger houses for families on the housing list. In effect this policy means that the Council will have a number of three bedroom houses for the cost of two bedroom bungalows.

However, an accurate figure of transfers that will arise cannot be given with ~~certainty~~ because, particularly with the 'senior citizens,' the question of transfers can give rise to 'heartaches.' It is not the Council's policy to arrange transfers compulsorily and much depend on gentle persuasion and reasoning by both the staff of the department and local Council members.

### HOUSING WAITING LIST

During the year a questionnaire was forwarded to all applicants on the Housing Waiting List to ascertain whether they still desired to be considered for the allocation of Council dwellings. The result of this assessment was that at the end of the year, 594 genuine applicants were registered with the department. This number included 384 resident within the rural district and 210 resident outside the rural area. This compares with a total of 815 for the previous year.

It must be appreciated that the waiting list is not always a true reflection of housing need, particularly so, in so far as specially-adapted bungalows for the elderly are concerned. In villages or districts where no bungalows or only a few have been built, there does not appear to be an incentive for aged persons to apply. It is my experience that elderly applicants soon apply when they see positive signs of action by the Council.

Prior to last year, housing allocations were made by the House-Letting Committee, following my observations on the housing need of the respective applicants. In May, 1969, the Council's policy was changed and it is now the Housing Manager who is solely responsible for House Letting without reference to a Committee. The allocations are based on a Points Scheme and on other special merits, following detailed investigations by the department. All applications are immediately registered, but generally no applicant is considered unless he has been on the waiting list 6 months and also married for six months. Key workers are considered by the Housing Committee on their individual merits.

### HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The total number of bungalows provided in the district is now 287 of which 242 are specially adapted for aged persons.

It is an established fact that because of the advancement of medical science and improved social and environmental conditions, the problem of the elderly in this community will considerably increase in future years because of the longevity of the population. This will be particularly so in rural areas, where there has always



been a higher proportion of elderly persons. The Council are well aware of the housing problem of the aged and the housing programme for the next three years is heavily weighted in favour of the elderly community. This is because there is a greater housing need, generally speaking, for 'sheltered' housing accommodation, than there is for other families.

It is not sufficient simply to provide the dwelling and then forget about the tenants, because housing is not an end in itself. It is a means whereby, in conjunction with adequate supervision, when required, the 'senior citizens' can live out the rest of their days in comparative peace and tranquility, knowing that help in times of emergency is readily available. This has entailed the provision of a warden service, and the council can justly feel proud of its pioneering efforts, particularly in this county and beyond. During the year a peripatetic warden was appointed for the Llangendeirne parish and this was another new innovation by the Council. The warden is resident at Llangendeirne village, where the Council had erected 10 bungalows and she is also responsible for looking after elderly residents in council bungalows on sites at Bryn Siloh, Carway, Bryn Moriah, Meinciau and Maesglas, Pontyates; At the end of the year, plans were also made for the appointment of a warden at Gorslas, when the bungalows will be ready for occupation in March 1970. Strict conditions of duties are not laid down for the warden, so that she can cater for the varied and changing circumstances of each individual person; reliance being placed on the Warden's initiative. It is however, the policy for the wardens to attend courses on 'Care of the Elderly' at selected centres.

In conjunction with the three year housing programme, a scheme was submitted to the Council, incorporating the extension of the warden and supervisory service. The proposed bungalows are scattered on 26 sites throughout the rural district and the scheme envisages peripatetic and resident wardens together with supervisors, depending on the size and location of the bungalow.

The Council members are keenly interested in catering for the welfare needs of the community and they deserve great credit for their concern. However, catering for these needs, such as the extensive proposals for warden and other supervision, entails the Council in considerable additional expense. At present, the Council receives from the County Welfare Committee £30 per approved elderly tenant, housed in a specially-adapted bungalow. The applicant/tenants are subjected to a means test by the County. One in every three old age pensioner housed by the Council have been rejected for grant which is a considerable financial loss to the Housing Revenue Account. The Council however, does not discriminate between non-approved and approved applicants, but house each elderly person according to his housing need. In my opinion there should be no 'means test' whatsoever and that the Council should receive an adequate contribution from the County Council to cater for the welfare am-

entities that we provide. The £30 grant is totally inadequate and needs urgent review, otherwise the cost of this additional service will have to be borne by other council house tenants and the rate-payers at large. It is obvious that more expense is involved by rural district councils, because in contrast to the large conurbations, the elderly dwellings are not concentrated, but are naturally scattered, in small groups, on sites where the housing need exists.

In the previous report, reference was made to the great benefit obtained by certain elderly residents in the bungalows by being able to obtain a television licence for a 1/- per annum. The department was successful in obtaining these licences for the elderly residents in the adapted bungalows at Tre-Gynwr, Trevaughan, Llangendeirne, Meinciau, Maesglas and Carway. However, much to my disappointment, it appears that some of these tenants will be denied this privilege in the future. The General Post Office are applying their rules much more stringently and it seems that only elderly persons occupying specially-adapted bungalows, equipped with an alarm system and a resident warden will be entitled to this concession.

The Welsh Office issued Circular 84/69 which detailed the standard of accommodation to be provided for the elderly. This is a considerable and welcome improvement on standards imposed by Circular 18/57. One aspect, of particular benefit, is the improved heating requirements, which provides for a temperature of 70°F in the bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom and circulation areas, but, alas, it is not compulsory for the second bedroom. It is the Council's policy to build two bedroom bungalows rather than one, because of the varying and changing needs in the rural areas and also another important consideration is that elderly couples, in my experience, prefer two bedrooms for a number of reasons. Among these, are the fact, that if one of them is ill, they prefer to occupy a separate bedroom and this is so, particularly with silicotic ex-miners. It is considered that the heat required should apply to the second bedroom in addition to the main one.

### HOUSING OF THE HANDICAPPED

Two specially adapted bungalows for handicapped persons were completed during the year at Carway and Trevaughan. Detailed consultations regarding the adaptations were undertaken by the department and the Engineer's Department and most important of all, with the handicapped persons or their families and the Welfare Officer of the Handicapped. In both of the bungalows, the Council transferred families with a physically handicapped member from their existing houses which could not be adequately adapted. Both families have settled down well in their new homes and are most appreciative of the transfers. One must not lose sight of the fact, that it is not only the handicapped person that benefits from these modifications, but just as important, is the great benefit derived by the person or persons who look after them.



The cost of adaptations for the handicapped dwellings are shared equally by the County Welfare Department and the Council. Consultations have taken place with the Welfare Department regarding the provision of at least one specially adapted dwelling on sites where there will be twelve or more bungalows, so that one will be readily available for a handicapped family. At present, the dwellings have been adapted when the circumstances of a particularly handicapped family has been known, but it is anticipated that there will always be a demand on larger sites for such dwellings. Discussions are still continuing regarding this matter and in the initial period, the welfare department will undertake a survey of handicapped persons in the areas where the Council propose building and will subsequently submit suitable names for rehousing consideration.

### HOMELESS FAMILIES

The Council with the co-operation of the County Welfare Committee have made available Brithdir, Cefneithin, a private house acquired by the Council, for the rehousing of homeless families. During the year under review, the house was not occupied because there was no occasion for the rehousing of any family following an emergency. Whilst the house is unoccupied the rent is paid by the County Welfare Committee.

A farmhouse was gutted by fire during the year and the family were offered the temporary tenancy of Brithdir, but declined to move because it was situated approximately four miles from the farm holding. The family were subsequently offered and accepted, the temporary tenancy of a caravan, which was placed near the farm buildings by the County Welfare Committee.

### HOUSING MANAGEMENT

All housing matters with the exception of rent collection, execution of works of repair and recovery of possession is undertaken by the department. It is regrettable that due to a number of factors, great difficulty is experienced regarding the speedy execution of repair work and it is a matter of regret that the waiting period for general repair work is about six months or more. This state of affairs has been reported to the Council on several occasions and the Council are fully aware of the tenant's frustration and the difficulty experienced by the department, in trying to appease and explain the position to tenants, who at times are justly irate. The Work Study Department, which had been created in 1968, concentrated its study during the year mainly on refuse collection.

In October of the year under review, a survey was commenced on a method and work study of the housing maintenance section. The original proposals are to phase the study into the various building trade operatives commencing with the painting trade. It is hoped that

during 1970, both the painters and carpenters will be on a bonus incentive scheme, which will enable the backlog of work in these sections to be considerably reduced. The department is co-operating with the Work Study Officer and his department in the preparation of the schemes and it is my sincere belief that the end product will be of lasting benefit, both to the tenants, Council's employees and to the Council itself. It is most irritating for tenants, the staff of the department and local Council members in particular, when items of disrepair are outstanding for a considerable period.

Council house tenants throughout the country over the years are being regrettably subjected to a great deal of criticism by the press and other media, regarding rent arrears, unkept dwellings, uncultivated gardens and various other items of mis-management. It is true, that this Council like a number of other Councils, have their social problem families, but the picture must not be distorted. The vast majority of Council tenants are very good, both in regard to rent payments and the manner in which they care for their dwellings. In particular, some estates are a pleasure to visit. Fortunately, the class barrier that exists in many council areas between council and non-council properties does not appear to be so prevalent in this district. Aneurin Bevan, when Minister of Health in 1949, deleted the term 'working-classes' from housing legislation, so that council houses could be made available for all sections of the community. It has certainly helped to remove the class barrier that possibly existed previously.

Particular mention must be made regarding the comparatively low rent arrears situation among council tenants. The position at the time of writing this report, is that the total rent arrears of existing tenants is equivalent to 13% of the total gross weekly rent. When one realises, that some of the most widely regarded, large and small progressive housing authorities in this country, have an arrears situation of 100% and over of the gross weekly rent, then the position in the Carmarthen Rural District Council is adequately reflected. Of course there must be no room for complacency on that account, but credit must be given to the Treasurer's Department and also of course to the tenants themselves, for this satisfactory state of affairs.

A perennial complaint in the department involves the keeping of dogs on council estates. A detailed survey has been undertaken and reported upon to Council. It is a matter for some concern and it is difficult to adequately control. Efforts have been made to achieve this and letters have been forwarded to the tenants reminding them that permission is required to keep pets and appealing that their pets should be kept under adequate control. It is possible, that with the probability of legislation to increase dog licence fees, that this will ensure that only genuine dog lovers will keep dogs, provided of course, that adequate safeguards are provided to help the lower-income groups, such as the old and the handicapped, so that they will not be deprived of being able to keep a dog.



In September, the Council made available to the Electricity Board, Gas Board and the National Coal Board, three identical houses at Whitland to be used as show houses for central heating purposes. The houses were officially opened by the Council's Chairman and were available for inspection by council tenants for a period of fourteen days. Unfortunately, not very many people availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting these houses. The area though, was adequately canvassed by members of the respective boards. An application was made to the Welsh Office for a loan sanction of £33,857 to enable tenants to install central heating but sanction was only received for £20,000; this enables approximately 80 tenants to have the work done during the financial year commencing 1st April, 1970 to 31st March, 1971. It is based on a Rent Option Scheme, whereby the Council supervises the work of installation and pays the contractor. The tenant then pays an additional weekly sum, in perpetuity, to his normal weekly rent, based on the capital cost of the scheme. Before approval is given the proposed central heating installation must be to the minimum requirements of the 'Parker Morris' standard but they are encouraged to exceed this standard.

### HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

The department have continued to play an active part in the encouragement of improvement grant schemes, both Standard and Discretionary. The Housing Act 1969, which came into force on 25th August, 1969, will prove a real boon for the improvement of the existing housing stock in the rural district. The £1,000 maximum grant will be an added stimulus towards the improvement of the rural cottages and the houses in the rural community. This Act caters more adequately for rural districts than its predecessors, because more emphasis is 'placed on the social as well as the economic factors, in house improvement. The deterioration of dwellings and slum clearance procedure assumes a different role in the rural community than in the built-up areas. Many of the older houses, which although unfit, are not in a dilapidated condition and therefore can be brought up to the 12 point standard by means of the discretionary grant. This forms an integral part of the arrest of housing decay and slum clearance control in the truly rural part of the district. It is one of the most pleasing aspect of the department's work to take part in improvement schemes, by help and advice and subsequently to see the general standard of housing in the district being continually raised. Mention must again be made that the success of the scheme is principally due to the excellent co-operation that exists between the Engineer's and Public Health departments. Both departments have their respective roles to play and the primary object is to be of the utmost assistance to the client and the eventual successful completion of suitable improvement schemes,

The increase in house improvement during the year under review was probably restricted due to restrictions on availability of capital for the purchase and improvement of the older houses. It is hoped that the power for the Council to provide Maturity Loans, will enable more elderly owner/occupiers to improve their property. They need the benefit of modern amenities in their advancing years and this could be done by setting off the amount of loan against the estate of the house.

During the year 88 discretionary grants and 14 standard grants were approved.

The table below, details the number of grant aided improvement schemes completed and the figures adequately illustrate the wonderful record.

Details of Discretionary and Standard Grants to 31/12/69 are as follows:—

Type of Grant	Number of Dwellings Improved		Amount Paid in Grant	Average Grant per house
	Owner Occupied	Tenanted		
Discretionary	951	542	£482,222/15/5 £41,707/5/8	£322/19/9 £139/9/9
Standard	213	86		
	1164	628		
Total	1792		£523,930/2/1	£292/7/5

### UNFIT HOUSES

The type of unfit house which mainly concerns this council, is the individual unfit house. This principally because the Council's district is rural in character, with a large number of owner/occupiers and thus formal clearance areas are very rare in the district. During the year under review, there were no houses dealt with in clearance areas and none were due to be declared. Unfit houses, where they are found are generally dealt with by improvement as shown in the previous paragraph. However, where houses are found to be unfit for human habitation and not capable of being repaired at reasonable expense, they are represented to the council as unfit, unless the owner has previously agreed to submit an improvement grant scheme. Even in the case of houses which are represented to the council as being unfit, a large number are finally improved after agreement with the owner or prospective purchaser. During the year 9 houses were represented to the Council as unfit for habitation and in accordance with the provision of the Housing Act, 1957. The Council accepted proposals for the repair and improvement of 3 houses and also 6 undertakings not to relet. Closing orders and demolition orders were made in 6 cases in accordance with section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957,

A total of 18 families comprising of 47 persons were rehoused from unfit houses.

7 dwellings were demolished during the year.

It is intended that during the coming year a systematic inspection of the area will be carried out, in order to determine the number of unfit houses in the area and the best method of dealing with them, having regard to the provisions of the Housing Acts, 1957 and 1969.

### RENT ACT, 1957

One application was received during the year for a Certificate of Disrepair. However, within the statutory three week period, following the service of notice to the owner, the tenant vacated the dwelling.

## FOOD INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

### FOOD HYGIENE

A total of 429 visits were made to registered and other food premises in the area, details of which are shown in the table appended below:—

Type of Premises	No. of Premises	No. of Visits	Complied with Regulation 16 (wash hand basins) No.	Regulation 19 Applicable	Complied with Regulation 19 (food washing equipment) No.
Butchers Shops including Preserved Meat Premises	22	74	22	22	22
Wholesale Meat Premises	2	10	2	2	2
Cafés and Restaurants	34	94	33	34	34
Bakehouses	10	16	10	10	10
Grocers and General Provisions	222	110	116	107	107
Ice-Cream Premises (Registered)	122	32	122	122	122
Ice-Cream Factories (Registered)	2	14	2	2	2
Fish and Chip Shops	5	17	5	5	5
Licensed Premises	90	47	83	89	87
Poultry Processing Plants	1	15	1	1	1
Total	510	429	396	394	392

Even though the department is armed with the power contained in the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, most of the work in connection with food hygiene is mainly of an advisory nature. Education and persuasion remains the most satisfactory weapon to improve unsatisfactory conditions. As a last resort, if a trader is uncooperative, then I would have no hesitation in instituting legal proceedings. This has been demonstrated by



the department successfully prosecuting one Food trader, for non-compliance with the regulations. At times a reminder of this to some traders has been sufficient to obtain improved conditions in certain food premises. It is worth re-iterating, that the general public have the most effective weapon at their disposal to improve hygienic positions in shops and it is simply NOT to trade in dirty and unhygienic food establishments. In all walks of life, nothing hurts more than the financial impact, and when the food trader realises that the turnover is severely curtailed, due to the unhygienic state of his premises and equipment he would soon put it right. The outstanding leaders in the field of food manufacturing and retail in this country have proved over and over again that good hygiene is good business.

### **FOOD HYGIENE (MARKETS, STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1966**

These regulations are of special importance in the Council's area, due partly to the fact that a rural community is covered and partly because it is a tourist and holiday area. Mobile butchers, bakers and grocers operate in the district throughout the year and provide an essential service in the outlying parts of the Council's area. The majority of stall owners and occupiers have a good idea of hygiene and operate their stalls in a hygienic manner. However, during the summer, a lot of casual labour is employed in order to cater for the tourist trade. This is especially so, on ice-cream retail vehicles. Most vans are now equipped with both sinks and wash-hand basins, supplied with a constant supply of hot water; some of the older vans still rely on insulated containers for the hot water. This type of arrangement is not as satisfactory as the type of water heater which works directly from the car engine, and gives a constant supply of hot water, merely by filling the tank with an adequate supply of cold water, which of course can be obtained readily wherever the van is situated. Temperature control of food is still not satisfactory, due to the fact that with the present exemption in the regulations, notably regulation 12, occupiers of stalls cannot be required to provide temperature control equipment for such things as meat pies, pasties, cooked meats and cream cakes. This is obviously a position which needs to be remedied, especially in view of the fact that the bulk of the vans operate during periods of high temperature in the holiday season. It is pleasing to note however, that at least one butcher has provided temperature control equipment in his mobile van, in order to better serve the hygienic needs of his customers. The large number of vans operating in the area and the fact that mostly in the summer they are manned by casual labour, involves the department in a considerable amount of work, especially in educating new stall holders the hygienic methods of operation.

A table below shows the number of vans operating in the area and the type of food sold by those vans. However, in addition to these approximately 80 vans enter the area from outside.

The type of food sold from these stalls are as follows:—

Ice Cream Vans	—	65
Grocer/Bakers	—	52
Butchers	—	12
Others	—	14

In addition to normal routine inspections of vans, food stalls at the annual fairs throughout the district are inspected, when they are stationed at the various villages throughout the area.

### UN SOUND FOOD

Below is a list of food examined and condemned during the year; both type and quantity are shown. The meat and offal condemned in the five private abattoirs within the Council's area are not included.

Meat at Wholesale premises	..	..	933 lbs
Meat at Retail Shops	..	..	281 lbs
Cooked Meat and meat products	..	..	55 lbs
Canned Meats	..	..	11 lbs
Other Canned Foods	..	..	37 lbs
Frozen Foods	..	..	1254 lbs

The majority of these condemned products were brought to the notice of the department by the traders concerned. Obviously it is impracticable for public health inspectors to attempt frequent, thorough inspection of tinned products, in every food store in the district; the department therefore relies in some measure on the co-operation of traders and consumers. The public are asked to be mindful, when purchasing damaged cans, as rusty containers and defective seams can adversely affect the food products.

### PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are five privately owned licensed slaughterhouses in the rural district area and all were in operation throughout the year. Licences are renewed annually. All the slaughterhouses have been modernised and brought up to standard structurally. Regular inspection is required in order to ensure the observance of sanitary and hygienic practices in the slaughtering operations and the handling of meat in the slaughterhouses. Good management and personal hygiene is essential in the abattoirs. All meat inspected by a public

health inspector and passed by him is marked with an official identifying stamp before the meat is removed from the slaughterhouse.

A total number of 323 visits were made to the slaughterhouses in the area during the year and the following number of animals were slaughtered.

Cattle	..	..	..	..	610
Cows	..	..	..	..	5
Calves	..	..	..	..	2537
Sheep and Lambs	..	..	..	..	4062
Pigs	..	..	..	..	500
Goats	..	..	..	..	14

Since the 1st November, 1968, the use of a wiping cloth for wiping down carcasses has been discontinued in accordance with the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Amendment Regulations, 1966. This operation is now done by means of a high pressure water-spray and these are in use at all slaughterhouses in the area.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1954

There were 10 licences for slaughtermen in force during the year. Licences are renewed every three years. Some slaughterhouse owners are having difficulty in engaging sufficient trained slaughtermen. It seems that very few boys are attracted to the trade as apprentice slaughtermen these days.

The following table summarises the amount of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned by the Public Health Inspectors at the slaughterhouses in the Rural District during the year :—

**Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part**

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed .. ..		610	5	2537	4062	500	14
Number inspected .. ..		610	5	2537	4062	500	14
All diseases EXCEPT Tubercu- losis and Cysticeri	Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	12	7	1	Nil
	Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned ..	251	5	27	440	19	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis or Cysticeri .. ..		41.14 %	100%	1.06%	10.83 %	3.8 %	Nil
Tubercul- osis ONLY	Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis .. ..		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticer- cosis	Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Carcasses sub- mitted for treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Generalised and totally con- demned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Total mount of Meat and Offal condemned at slaughterhouses—  
1 ton 19 cwt. 92½ lbs.



## ICE CREAM MANUFACTURING AND RETAIL PREMISES

At the commencement of the year there were two premises which were registered for the manufacture of ice cream, one at Pendine and another at St. Clears, but at the close of the summer season, the smaller factory at St. Clears ceased to manufacture ice cream. The main factory at Pendine has a distribution network covering the whole of West Wales and ice cream has been distributed during the year as far afield as Caernarvon, where ice cream was sold during the Investiture Celebrations. A large amount of ice cream, iced lollies and speciality ice cream products, were manufactured at both factories and both received regular visits throughout the year to check on temperature control during pasturisation and also general hygienic conditions. A number of samples were taken which were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, for examination by the Methylene Blue Test, the results of which are shown below. The Methylene Blue Test is a chemical test, which shows the bacteriological purity or cleanliness of the ice cream. Grades 3 and 4 is an indication of faulty hygiene. The samples in the table include ice cream purchased in all types of premises and not merely samples taken from the factories situated within the Council's area. In addition to the two ice-cream factories in the Council's district, there are at present 122 premises which are registered for the retail sale of ice cream. A total number of 32 visits have been made to these premises, to ensure that they comply with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Ice Cream Heat Treatment etc. Regulations 1959 and 1963.

Grade	No. of Samples
1	27
2	3
3	5
4	—

In addition 6 samples of ice-lollies and 1 Strawberry Cup were sampled and all were satisfactory i.e. with a p.H of less than 4.5.

## POULTRY INSPECTION

A poultry processor at Clynderwen killed approximately 4,000 turkeys during the two weeks prior to Christmas. The turkeys are sold as table birds to wholesale and retail butchers in the area and also in wholesale markets in South Wales. The carcasses are examined by the processor and doubtful carcasses are put aside for further examination by the Public Health Inspector.

Butchers' shops are also visited to examine local poultry, particularly during the Christmas period.



## POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

No. of Premises	No. of Visits	No. of Birds Processed	Type of Bird	% Unfit for Human Consumption	Weight of Condemned Poultry
1	6	4,000	Turkeys	.75%	210 lbs

## THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| (i) Number of egg pasteurisation plants in the district ..                       | } Nil |
| (ii) Number of samples of liquid egg submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test .. .. . |       |

MILK SUPPLIES

The Rural District has been scheduled for a number of years as a specified area in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Specification of Areas) Order 1957. The Licensing Authority is the County Council and there were 69 producers/retailers and 38 dealers licenced in the area at the end of the year. One heat treatment plant operates within the district and the actual supervision of the processing plant is the responsibility of the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority. The Council, however, are concerned with the supervision of all other aspects of the dairy premises.

In order to avoid duplication of visits regarding milk sampling, arrangements have been made, in collaboration with the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whereby samples taken by the Ministry's Officers for other purposes are also being examined for Brucellosis. The department is immediately notified of any positive results of the Milk Ring Test. The farm or dairy concerned is then visited and samples taken from individual cows in order to ascertain the animals affected. The Ministry's Divisional Veterinary Officer is notified regarding the results and this close liaison is of mutual benefit to all concerned.

The following table gives details and results of the number of samples taken:—

No. of Visits	No. of Samples taken	No. Unsatisfactory
4	147	17

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. E. G. Nicholls, Chief Inspector of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year in the area of the Carmarthen Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the various Regulations and Orders made thereunder:—

Total number of samples of foodstuffs and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis for compositional quality and purity .. .. .	167
Informal samples of milk tested for compositional quality by the Food and Drugs Inspectors .. .. .	54
Informal samples of Alcoholic Spirits tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors .. .. .	2
Milk samples submitted for examination for bacteriological quality etc., at the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, Carmarthen .. .. .	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>296</u></b>

### **Milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst**

Number of samples submitted .. .. .	124
Certified to be genuine .. .. .	92
Deficient in Non-fatty-solids due to natural causes .. .. .	19
Deficient in Fat .. .. .	11
Contained Antibiotic Residues .. .. .	2

Warnings were issued in respect of the two samples of Untreated Milk reported by the Public Analyst to contain antibiotic residues (0.1 and 0.05 International Units per Millilitre respectively) – these being the first occasions for traces of antibiotics to be found in milk sold by the milk-producers concerned.

It was considered that legal proceedings were not warranted in respect of any of the milk samples certified to be deficient in fat.

### **Informal samples of Milk taken at schools and other establishments and tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors.**

Number of samples tested .. .. .	54
Genuine in Fat and Non-fatty-solids .. .. .	49
Slightly deficient in both Non-fatty-solids .. .. .	3
Slightly deficient in both Fat and non-fatty-solids .. .. .	2

### **Miscellaneous articles of Food and Drugs**

Number of samples submitted to the Public Analyst	43
Certified to be genuine .. .. .	39
Certified to be Unsatisfactory .. .. .	4

Warnings were given to the manufacturers of the following four samples of foodstuffs reported to be unsatisfactory:—

<i>Description of Samples</i>	<i>Nature of deficiency or irregularity</i>
Double Strength Mint ..	Deficient in volatile oil (Volatile oil contents: 0.16% Recommended minimum standard: 0.25%)
Lime Marmalade ..	Deficient in Fruit (Fruit content 16%. Statutory minimum standard 20%)
Beef Sausages ..	Contained undeclared preservative
Instant Coffee ..	Deficient in caffeine (Caffeine content: 2.6% Recommended minimum standard: 3.0%)

A warning was also given to the owner of a bakery in respect of a piece of string found in a loaf of bread.

### **Alcoholic Spirits**

Two informal samples of Whisky were purchased at licensed premises and were tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors. Both samples were found to be genuine.

### **The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 and 1965**

Seventy samples of milk were taken from licensed milk dealers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, for examination for bacteriological quality etc. All the samples were reported to have satisfied the prescribed tests.

The samples comprised: – Pasturised Milk – 34; Untreated Milk – 27; Ultra Heat Treatment Milk – 9.

The twenty-seven samples of Untreated Milk were also examined for *Brucella Abortus* under the *Brucella* Ring test. All the samples gave negative results.

Three samples of Untreated Milk supplied to schools were submitted for guinea-pig inoculation. The reports received in respect of these three samples indicated that there was no evidence of Tubercle or *Brucella abortus* infection.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – GENERAL**

### **Intensive Poultry Units**

During August of the year under review, the department received a considerable number of complaints from residents of the Cwmffrwd and Pentrepoeth district, regarding the nuisances from flies, which they stated, emanated from Messrs W. & J. B. Eastwoods, egg-laying sheds at Gelligaeros, Cwmffrwd. Prior to the fly invasion, these sheds had been in operation for about two years and representations have been made to the Company over the period, regarding



certain matters of concern to the department. At that time, I was very disappointed at the Company's neglect and apparent unconcerned attitude regarding adequate hygienic arrangements at their establishment. The residents, at that time, certainly had cause for complaint with the smell nuisance and fly infestation. Serious representation were made to the Company and their representatives met a deputation of the residents and the Housing and Public Health Committee at the council chamber. Certain assurances were then given by the representatives, but these were not fulfilled. The outcome of this was that the Council sought legal advice to deal with the situation and I reported to the Council that a statutory nuisance existed and subsequently an Abatement Notice was served on the Company on December 1. Subsequent to the serving of this notice and to the date of writing this report, the Company appear to be much more keenly aware of the need to improve and maintain hygienic conditions at their egg producing units and substantial amount of work has been done to try and alleviate the original nuisances. More urgent control is now exercised by the Company regarding fly control measures and it is hoped that there will not be a recurrence of conditions that prevailed in August 1969. One is not completely happy about the conditions that exist at present, particularly with the problem of water on the site. However, the Company has considerably deepened the ditches around the area in order to prevent ground water gaining access to the manure pits. If this is not successful, assurances have been received that further measures will be taken to alleviate the conditions.

### CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES

Both caravanning and camping are growing in popularity in the council's area every year. Caravans are controlled by provision of site licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and tenting sites under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which allows site licences to be issued for tenting sites. Following the introduction of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, caravanning is the most popular type of holiday in the council's area. Tenting was only carried on in isolated sites for short periods which did not come within the control of licensing under the Public Health Act, 1936, since the tents were there for less than 60 days in the aggregate in any year. The position now however has changed considerably. The emphasis is on touring caravans and tenting, which are now rapidly gaining in popularity and may very well become a major part of the camping scene. Each year, one sees more touring caravans than the year before and this has been the case during 1969. At the end of the year, site licences were issued for a combined caravan and camping site at Laugharne. This is the first combined caravan and camping site to be licenced in the council's area; at the same time planning permission was being



sought for a similar type of site in Pendine and it is likely that a site licence will need to be issued in Pendine during the coming year, for the same type of site. It is the Council's policy to encourage this type of development, as it allows families with caravans and tents to camp together on the same site. Also this enables a higher standard of amenity to be provided on tenting sites, where in normal circumstances, due to lack of adequate legislation, showers would not be required in the provisions of the site licence.

The site at Laugharne is of a particularly high standard and when completed, will include in addition to the normal shower and toilet facilities a drying room for camping equipment and a large games room. Since it is obvious that there will be an ever increasing number of touring caravans in this area, it is the Council's policy to ensure, that not only do the sites provided come up to the standard required by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, and Camping Licences issued under the Public Health Act, but that they are generally to as high a standard as possible. Caravan Sites are situated mainly along the coastal strip of the Council's area including Ferryside, Llanstephan, Laugharne, Pendine and the Carmarthenshire part of Amroth, and also inland near fishing rivers and streams. Two sites at Whitland have been provided, which cater mainly for itinerant vendors, but also for permanent caravans.

A table is shown below of the number of caravans in the Council's area and the type of site.

**TABLE OF LICENSED CARAVAN SITES STILL OPERATING  
IN CARMARTHEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL'S AREA  
DURING 1969**

<i>Address</i>	<i>Type of Site</i>	<i>Number on Licences</i>
St. Ishmaels Caravan Park, Ferryside	Holiday Static and touring	271
Innisfree Bungalow, The Green, Llanstephan .. .. .	Holiday Static	7
Sunrise Bay Caravan Park, Llanstephan	Holiday Static	56
Ants Hill Caravan Park, Laugharne	Holiday, touring some static tenting site adjoining	60
Glanymor Country Club, Laugharne	Holiday static. Site for 13 un- developed	10
New Inn, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday Static	7
Silverdale, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday Static	60
Beach Hotel, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday Static	6
Bay Caravan Site, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday Static	40
Windsor Caravan Site, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday static, touring	196
Meadowview, Pendine .. .. .	Holiday static and touring	40
Westover Caravan Site, Whitland .. .. .	Holiday, touring permanent	25
Station Garage Caravan Site, Whitland	Holiday, housing and permanent	15
New Inn, Amroth .. .. .	Holiday static and touring	100
Llandre Farm, Egremont .. .. .	Holiday static and touring	12
Llwyn-y-coed, Egremont .. .. .	Holiday static and touring	10
Mill Garage, Laugharne .. .. .	Permanent	8

In addition eight caravans were licensed on individual isolated sites alongside disused farmhouses etc.

## **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

The Act lays down safety, health and welfare standards for wholesale and retail shops, at offices and similar premises. However businesses which only employ members of the family are generally exempt from the Act.

The Act has now been in force for over 5 years and during this time it has been pleasing to note, that most employers are keen to bring their premises up to the highest standard. The Act has had an especial effect on lighting standards and in shops, employers are finding, that the higher lighting standards, coupled with good food hygiene, lead to an expansion in business. Shops can be seen to be clean when the lighting is good.

Heating standards are now generally far better than when the Act came into force and many premises are maintaining temperatures above 60.4°F. (16°C) the required temperature.

During the year 58 visits were made to premises covered by the Act. The number registered is 112. Contraventions of the Act were notified to occupiers and owners, but due to rising standards these are now less than in previous year.

## **SAMPLING OF WATER SUPPLIES**

During the year the Public Health Inspectors took numerous samples of public, private and farm water supplies and these were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Analyst at Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

Samples from public supplies were as follows:—

Source	No. of Samples		Total
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Eastern Area Supply .. ..	5	—	5
Western Area Supply .. ..	6	2	8
Whitland Supply .. ..	22	6	28
Llysonnen Cottages .. ..	1	—	1
Llawddog Supply .. ..	1	—	1
Penybont Supply .. ..	—	1	1
Pendine Supply .. ..	1	—	1
Ferryside Supply .. ..	8	1	9
Gynnin Valley Supply .. ..	1	—	1
Blaenycod Village Supply ..	3	—	3
Llanfallteg Village Supply ..	—	1	1

## **Domestic Connections to Farm Supply System**

As in former years, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, a number of water samples were again taken by the Public Health Inspectors from new grant-aided farm water supply schemes. When the supply is connected to the dwelling house a certificate of suitability has to be provided by the Public Health Department before the Ministry will make the appropriate grant.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are at present in the Council's area 12 public conveniences situated as shown in the table below:—

### Facilities provided in Council owned Public Conveniences

Location	GENTS			LADIES	
	Water Closets	Urinals	Washing Facilities	Water Closets	Washing Facilities
Cefneithin	1	3 Stalls	tap over gully in water closet compartment	2	cold water tap over gully in 1 compartment
Drefach	1	3 stalls	tap over gully in water closet compartment	2	—
Ferryside	2	3 stalls	1 wash handbasin	4	1 wash hand basin
Gorslas	1	3 stalls	tap over gully in water closet compartment	2	—
The Green, Llanstephan	1	5 stalls	—	3	1 cold water tap over gully in one W.C. compartment 1 corner wash hand basin with cold water tap
Laugharne	1	3 stalls	—	2	—
Pendine cliff adjoining Spring Well Inn	2	2 stalls	—	4	—
Pendine Car Park	2	2 stalls	—	3	1 wash hand basin
Pontyates	1	3 stalls	tap over gully in W.C. compartment	2	1 cold water tap over gully
St. Clears	1	6 stalls	—	2	1 wash hand basin
The Village (Llanstephan)	1	3 stalls	tap over gully in water closet compartment	2	cold water tap one over gully in W.C. compartment
Whitland	2	4 stalls	—	3	1 wash hand basin



The increase in tourism as shown, has emphasised the need for expanding public convenience facilities in coastal areas, particularly at Pendine and Llanstephan. At the close of the year, the Engineer's department were in the process of designing new conveniences for these villages, which are becoming increasingly popular in the summer. During the year, the department made a report to the Council on washing facilities in public conveniences. Very few of the Council's public conveniences have adequate washing facilities, none of which are provided with hot water, soap, nailbrushes and clean towels or other drying facilities. Taking into account, the ever increasing number of visitors in the area during the summer months, it is imperative that wash-hand basins should be provided in all the public conveniences, in particular those near to the coast and along a line of the trunk roads, passing through the district. Visitors, particularly those in caravans and holiday flats and chalets in the area, need a vast amount of ready-prepared and ready-cooked food. There is obviously a risk of contamination of food after the people concerned have visited public conveniences, where there are no proper washing facilities. The lack of washing facilities in public conveniences, largely negates the effort made by the traders and the public health inspectorate.

Following my report to the Council it was decided to provide washing facilities in all the public conveniences, but due to various factors, none had been provided at the close of the year in question. It is to be hoped that this position will be remedied in the near future.

One problem that has concerned the council is vandalism, and one can understand members' reluctance, at times, to agree to provide improved facilities, when they might be ruined by acts of sheer vandalism. A number of the public conveniences have been subjected to vandalism and notices have been displayed in each building offering a reward of £25 for information leading to a successful prosecution. In spite of this, vandalism still continues. It is most disheartening and in a further effort to combat this, experiments will be made by the installation of possible vandal-proof fittings and equipment. However, even against this unsatisfactory background it is the council's duty to set an example in the standard of facilities at public conveniences.

### **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

During the period of this report, dust has played its part in the work of the Inspectorate. Quarries, having tarmacadam plants, were again the main offenders, which as a result of poor maintenance or human error, caused volumes of dust to be discharged into the atmosphere.

At one quarry, a new wet arrestor was installed but its operation, in conjunction with the remaining 'old' plant, was so ineffective, as to be useless. As a result of representations made by the department,



the tarmacadam unit was closed down in November and remained closed for the remainder of the year, while the Management decided on whether to completely overhaul the existing plant or provide an entirely new unit.

The wet arrester at Garnwen Quarry, Hebron, was installed during the year and functioned generally satisfactorily. The quarry has now ample supplies of water to ensure proper working of the plant. In extreme wind conditions, there is still some leakage from the tarmacadam plant itself, but the quarry company have ordered modifications to the plant, which should be installed in early 1970. This should completely cure the problem. The management have been most cooperative and are continually seeking to improve matters which at the end of the year had already satisfied the complainants.

Co-operation continues with the Warren Springs Laboratory, of the Ministry of Technology, in the National Survey of Air pollution. Weekly visits are made to the survey site in a truly rural part of the district, at which pollution continues to be minimal. The results are of value to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in compiling a national picture of atmospheric pollution. Difficulties with the operation of the apparatus, both mechanical and electrical reduced the number of samples taken, but every effort was made to give as continuous a reading as possible.

### NOISE

The department's involvement in noise problems, has been restricted to that arising from blasting operations in certain quarries in the district.

It is appreciated that noise and vibration is very subjective in that people differ in their reaction to the presence of unwanted sound. Some inhabitants of properties close to the quarries are obviously apprehensive and disturbed by the noise. The Mines and Quarries Inspectorate have been notified of blasts, which have been alleged to have been excessive and their reports indicate that operations take place within the Regulations.

To try and minimise the effects of blasting, the Managements were contacted and as a begining various methods of breaking up the rock, resulting from a blast were tried. The use of heavy metal castings, dropped from a crane, did in one case replace the use of small explosives charges necessary, in what is termed the 'popping' operation.

All complaints of excessive noise and vibration from quarries are investigated as to the cause and their reason, whether as a result of pure negligence or avoidable errors, or as an essential and unavoidable quarrying necessity.

In the truly rural environment, excessive domestic noise, did not warrent the department's attention, but in a more 'urbanised part of the district, complaints of excessive noise from an organ at a public house were investigated and the owners approached regarding remedial measures.

## Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Duties of the Council under the Factories Acts have been carried out by the Public Health Inspectors as part of their routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained, as in former years with the District Inspector of Factories.

### PART 1 OF THE ACT

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	10	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	104	66	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	8	Nil	Nil
Total .. ..	109	84	Nil	Nil

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred.		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ..					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total .. ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA

### (Summary of Visits and Inspections)

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

Tenting Sites	..	..	..	..	..	11
Caravan Sites	..	..	..	..	..	82
Caravan Sites—Gypsies	..	..	..	..	..	6
Dangerous Structures	..	..	..	..	..	1
Defects and Disrepair	..	..	..	..	..	130
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	195
Filthy Premises	..	..	..	..	..	26
Verminous Premises	..	..	..	..	..	2
Health Education	..	..	..	..	..	3
Accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	27
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	..	134
Noise Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	13
Watercourses and Streams	..	..	..	..	..	31

#### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Nuisances from Smoke	..	..	..	..	..	7
Nuisances from grit and dust	..	..	..	..	..	69
Nuisances from effluvia	..	..	..	..	..	15
Smoke and SO <sub>2</sub> Apparatus (National Survey)	..	..	..	..	..	37

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries	..	..	..	..	..	23
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#### HOUSING (GENERAL)

Certificate of Disrepair	..	..	..	..	..	1
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	261
Land Charges Searches	..	..	..	..	..	113
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	—
Unfit House Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	77
Work in progress	..	..	..	..	..	7

#### HOUSING MANAGEMENT

Interviewing Applicants	..	..	..	..	..	940
Transfer Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	75
General Management Visits	..	..	..	..	..	2215

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	50
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	1
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	20
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	38
Swimming Pool (School)	..	..	..	..	..	—
Foreshore Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	7
Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	..	..	..	..	..	58
Factories Acts	..	..	..	..	..	84







